

REMARKS

In the above referenced case, claim 157 is pending. Applicant will sequentially address the issues raised by the Examiner.

I. The 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claim 157 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Karasawa, U.S. Patent No. 5,200,843 ("KARASAWA") in view of Konno, U.S. Patent No. 4,497,015 ("KONNO") and Dudley, U.S. Patent No. 4,159,163 ("DUDLEY").

Element [b] of claim 157 has been amended to recite separating the beam of electromagnetic energy into a plurality of separate electromagnetic energy beams without discarding half of the beam of electromagnetic energy, each of the separate electromagnetic energy beams having a predetermined orientation of electromagnetic wave field vectors. This additional element has support based on at least Figures 8B & 8D and their corresponding text in the Specification.¹

The Examiner cited Figure 13 of KARASAWA for rejecting element [b] of claim 157. Figure 13 of KARASAWA discloses a conventional projection type liquid crystal display which discards over 50% of the source light.

In this type of conventional projection type liquid crystal display system, 50% or more of the light from light source 1 transmitted through polarizer 44 will be absorbed and lost, i.e., one polarized light component will be selected from the light and transmitted through polarizer 44 while the other polarized light

¹ The embodiments described in the Specification (or illustrated in the Figures) are merely exemplary. Therefore, the claims should not be construed to cover only the exemplary embodiments described (or illustrated).

component is absorbed in polarizer 44.
KARASAWA, col. 1, lines 39-45 (emphasis added).

In this Office Action, the Examiner stated that “there is no specificity as to when/where the electromagnetic beam is produced in step [a].” As the result, the Examiner’s position was that the beam produced from both 1 and 44 of KARASAWA allegedly discloses the beam recited in step [a].

Claim 157 has been amended to recite the source of the beam of electromagnetic energy (i.e., from a light source). The beam of electromagnetic energy from the light source is separated in element [b] without previously discarding half of that energy. In contrast, in KARASAWA, the light from the light source 1 passes through polarizer 44 which discards half of the light before separating the light into multiple beams (via the dichroic mirror 45) for subsequent processing.

Based on the foregoing, claim 157 should be in condition for allowance.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would help advance the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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